

# Rx News Bulletin

## Bureau of Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

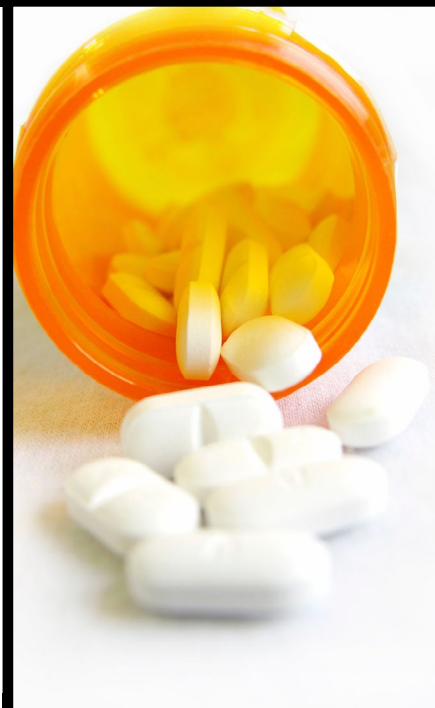
[health.mo.gov/safety/bnodd/index.php](http://health.mo.gov/safety/bnodd/index.php)

## Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances Effective July 30, 2015

Effective July 30, 2015, Missouri registrants may participate in the electronic prescribing of controlled substances (EPCS). Missouri controlled substance regulations have been changed to match Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations for EPCS. Once a registrant meets DEA standards for EPCS, a Missouri registrant may electronically prescribe controlled substances. Information regarding the DEA standards for EPCS may be found at: [http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ecommm/e\\_rx/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ecommm/e_rx/index.html).

### Quick facts about electronic prescribing

- Prescriptions for Schedules 2, 3, 4, and 5 substances may be transmitted electronically.
- Electronic prescribing is voluntary, not mandatory. Controlled substance prescriptions may still be transmitted by paper, telephone or facsimile.
- Before any electronic prescription or pharmacy application may be used to transmit prescriptions, a third party must audit the application for compliance with the requirements of 21 CFR part 1311, or a certifying organization whose certification process has been approved by DEA must verify and certify that the application meets the requirements of 21 CFR part 1311. A list of certifying organizations whose certification processes have been approved by DEA is available at: [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ecommm/e\\_rx/thirdparty.htm](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ecommm/e_rx/thirdparty.htm).
- Participating prescribers must verify their identity when sending electronic controlled substance prescriptions. This is done by providing two of three things: a user ID or password; a fingerprint scan or retina eye scan; or a USB device or smartcard.
- Electronic prescriptions must include all information required for a controlled substance. An assistant or employee may prepare the prescription, but only the registered practitioner may sign and transmit the prescription. Completion of the two-factor identity code is considered part of the practitioner's signature. Digitally scanned signatures are not acceptable.
- Prescriptions can only be transmitted for one patient at a time.
- Be aware that not all providers may be ready to transmit and receive electronic controlled substance prescriptions at the same time. A doctor may be ready to transmit controlled substance prescriptions electronically, but the receiving pharmacy may not have systems and procedures in place to receive electronic controlled substance prescriptions. Please check with the receiving pharmacy before transmitting an electronic controlled substance prescription.
- If an electronic prescription is sent to a pharmacy that does not have systems and procedures in place to receive electronic controlled substance prescriptions, the pharmacy cannot convert the prescription into a fax prescription.



## Disposing of Unwanted Controlled Substances

The Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD) recently updated the educational handout regarding how practitioners should dispose of unwanted controlled substances. The document includes an updated list of reverse distributors registered with the DEA.

View the disposal guidelines at: [www.health.mo.gov/BNDD](http://www.health.mo.gov/BNDD) and click on the link to Publications.

# Controlled Substance Activities During a State of Emergency

Missouri has suffered from tornados, ice storms, storm damage, and flooding during the past few years. These natural disasters cause disruption to medical providers who are attempting to treat patients.

Pursuant to Missouri law, the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD) has the authority to waive certain regulations and requirements during a state of emergency so that medical care can continue. When your area is under a state of emergency, you may contact the bureau or visit our website to see updates on how you may handle drugs and treat patients.

According to the laws of Missouri, the bureau follows the following steps:

1. After a disaster, the Governor must declare a state of emergency under Chapter 44, RSMo.
2. Once the Governor has declared a state of emergency, the Department of Health and Senior Services may waive certain regulations and requirements to allow for the emergency handling and distribution of controlled substances. These waivers are shared with the professional licensing boards, professional associations and filed as official notices at the Secretary of State's Office.
3. Examples of waivers in the past have been:
  - A. Allowing other providers to respond to Missouri and work at the scene of the emergency without a BNDD registration;
  - B. Allowing distributors to provide drugs to a registrant at the scene of an emergency or other alternate location that is not listed

on their BNDD or DEA registration;

- C. Waiving some record keeping requirements;
- D. Allowing controlled substances to be transferred and used at alternative sites that are not currently registered;
- E. Allowing pharmacies to dispense medications in an emergency to patients who need medications but cannot produce any type of prescription or refill information at the time. An example would be a citizen evacuated after the Joplin tornado needing medications at their new location in Columbia, MO but they don't have any records and their prior pharmacy and physician cannot be reached;
- F. Allowing drugs to be evacuated and moved to new locations to prevent losses during a flood.

As part of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the BNDD participates in emergency response drills several times a year and is required to maintain an emergency response plan to deal with terrorism events, storms, tornados, earthquakes, nuclear incidents, floods, or other types of disasters. During emergencies, the department routinely monitors and tracks the statuses of hospitals, surgery centers, long-term care facilities, EMS services, child care centers, city and county health departments and the distribution of needed medications. Exercises include the losses of hospitals assisting with transfers and tracking of patients. The BNDD is consistently preparing and drilling to assist medical providers in protecting the public's health and safety.





# Prescription Drug Take-Back

## 10th National Prescription Drug Take-Back

Saturday, September 26th

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Return unwanted, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs for safe disposal

Collection sites in every local community can be found by going to: [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov). This site will be continuously updated with new take-back locations.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back addresses a vital public safety and public health issue.



## STAY CURRENT

### Important Websites You Should Know About

If you are reading our Bureau of Narcotic and Dangerous Drugs' (BNDD) newsletter, then you have obviously found your way to the BNDD website where you can review statutes, regulations, announcements and educational documents. You may also add to your list of favorite websites by entering the DEA's website, [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov) and you can visit [www.pr.mo.gov](http://www.pr.mo.gov) to see websites for each of Missouri's medical licensing boards. These agencies also have links to their statutes, rules, announcements and newsletters on their websites.

## Reminder

The BNDD Online Application does not process immediately. The application has to be received, reviewed and processed by BNDD staff before it can be issued and the certificate printed.

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, 3418 Knipp Drive, PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102; (573) 751-6321; (573) 751-2569 fax; [bndd@health.mo.gov](mailto:bndd@health.mo.gov); [health.mo.gov/safety/bndd/index.php](http://health.mo.gov/safety/bndd/index.php)

Alternate forms of this publication for persons with disabilities may be obtained by contacting the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, BNDD, P.O. Box 570, Jefferson City, MO, 65102, (573) 751-6321. Hearing- and speech-impaired citizens can dial 711. EEO/AAP services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.